



## Arizona Juvenile Justice Commission Meeting Minutes

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**May 19, 2011**

9:30 AM

CHILDHHELP CHILDREN'S CENTER  
2346 N. Central Avenue  
Phoenix, AZ 85004

A meeting of the Arizona Juvenile Justice Commission convened on May 19, 2011 at Childhelp Children's Center, 2346 N. Central Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85004. Present and absent were the following members:

| Members Present |  |  |
|-----------------|--|--|
|-----------------|--|--|

|                      |                        |                  |
|----------------------|------------------------|------------------|
| Cecil Patterson, Jr. | Rob Lubitz             | Dennis Pickering |
| Cindi Nannetti       | Vada Jo Phelps         | Jane Kallal      |
| Robert Duber         | Myrtle Young           |                  |
| Shaun Rieve          | Carol Hirschberg-James |                  |
| Guy Penns            | James Molina           |                  |
| Alice Bustillo       | Helen Gandara          |                  |
| Derrick Johnson      | Chris Schopen          |                  |
| June Willson         |                        |                  |

| Staff/Guests Present | Members Absent |  |
|----------------------|----------------|--|
|----------------------|----------------|--|

|                      |                |                 |
|----------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Christy Alonzo       | Sammy Robinson | Jessica Hermann |
| Steve Selover        | Xavier Cameron | Tim Dunst       |
| John Raeder          | Nina White     | Judy Tom        |
| Tammy Paz-Combs      | Chad Campbell  | Bob Brutinel    |
| Sonya Pierce-Johnson | Mike Branham   | Robert Thomas   |
| Robert Bell          | Tom Pickrell   | Merissa Amiri   |

### **A. Call to Order**

Chairman Cecil Patterson called the meeting to order at 9:37 a.m. with seventeen (17) members, five (5) staff and one (1) guest present.

### **B. Welcome/Introductions**

Chairman Patterson asked all present in the room to introduce themselves.

### **C. Approval of Minutes**

Vada Jo Phelps moved to approve the minutes from the March 17, 2011 meeting as drafted by staff. Alyce Bustillo seconded the motion. Motion carried.

#### **D. Juvenile Accountability Block Grant Update**

Sonya Pierce-Johnson, Program Administrator for the Juvenile Accountability Block Grant (JABG) informed Commission members that approximately \$200,000 in JABG State Retained dollars will be available for the Department of Juvenile Corrections and the Administrative Office of the Courts for a one year contract beginning July 1, 2011.

Ms. Pierce-Johnson noted these funds include 20% of the States 2009 award, set aside for agencies responsible for juvenile justice, and the interest. Applications will be distributed to the two agencies by the end of May. Proposals must fit into one of the four priority areas identified by the Commission in their State Plan. Priority areas include: information sharing, risk/needs assessments, training, and accountability-based programming.

#### **E. Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Update**

##### **1. OJJDP Funding Update**

Christy Alonzo, Juvenile Justice Specialist and Program Administrator for Title II and Title V notified Commission members of the State's estimated funding amounts for 2011. She noted a significant reduction in all awards due to the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention receiving a 17% decrease in overall funding. Estimated allocations for Arizona's 2011 awards (received in October 2011) are:

|                      |                |
|----------------------|----------------|
| Title II - \$771,851 | (39% decrease) |
| Title V - \$ 40,000  | (41% decrease) |
| JABG - \$787,638     | (21% decrease) |

Ms. Alonzo indicated that a decision at the federal level left Title II minimum allocation states at level funding (\$600,000), thus leaving the larger states such to absorb the federal cuts, such as Arizona's 39% decrease.

Dennis Pickering noted that the reduction in funding should play a significant role in the development of the 2012 State's Three-Year Plan.

##### **2. Title II, Year 2 Renewal Application**

Ms. Alonzo stated Title II renewal applications are due to the office by 3 pm Friday, May 20, 2011. She mentioned that applicants were instructed to submit level funding budgets since a compliance determination had not yet been made.

Ms. Alonzo directed members to a handout in their packet that outlined measurements for each of the five (5) priority areas currently funded. She reported the measures were developed with the assistance of Mr. Lubitz with an emphasis on relating back to the core requirement of the Act. These measures will be evaluated by the Program Administrator, not by the subgrantees.

## **F. Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act 2010 Compliance Update**

### **1. 2010 Updated Draft Compliance Numbers/Rates**

Steve Selover, Compliance Monitor referred Members to their packet which included updated numbers/rates for Deinstitutionalization of Status Offenders, Jail Removal and Sight and Sound Separation.

### **2. Minor in Possession/Consumption of Federal Decision**

Mr. Selover discussed a ruling made by the Office of Justice Programs Legal Counsel that now defines minors in possession or consumption of alcohol as a delinquent offense. Legal Counsel began looking at the Act after a couple states appealed their out of compliance for deinstitutionalization of status offenders ruling, and determined that since an individual between the ages of 18 and 20 may also be charged with possession and/or consumption of alcohol, the offense is NOT a status offense. OJJDP has confirmed that they will continue to work with Legal Counsel to develop language that would reverse this decision and once again make minor in possession/consumption of alcohol a status offense.

Mr. Selover pointed out that he continues to stress the importance of not holding youth for this offense securely, and encouraging detention staff and law enforcement to look for alternatives to secure hold.

### **3. Development of Core Requirement Calendar Update**

Mr. Selover noted that the development of the calendar is underway. He has received two quotes from companies that could assist with the layout process.

## **G. Children's Justice Act Update**

### **1. Federal Renewal Application**

John Raeder, Program Administrator for the Children's Justice Act Grant informed the Commission that the due date for the third and final year of the 3-year plan developed in 2009 is May 31, 2011. The application is currently in the final review stages.

### **2. Needs Assessment Update**

Mr. Raeder announced that an upon completion of the State's procurement process, an evaluator has been selected to carry out a needs assessment that will be included in the States 2012 application/3-year plan for Children's Justice Act funds. The needs assessment will be conducted between June 1, 2011 and April 1, 2012. The assessment will be survey based.

### **3. ACFAN Annual Conference**

Mr. Raeder shared his invitation to present at the Arizona Child and Family Advocacy Center Network (ACFAN) annual conference on Friday, May 20, 2011.

## **H. Subgrantee Presentation**

Robert Bell, the Maricopa County Children's Justice Act Coordinator gave an overview of his responsibilities that include Mandated Reporter Training, as well as providing training and guidance on the Maricopa County Protocol, a best practice guide to joint

investigations of serious child abuse cases. Mr. Bell and his activities are funded with Children's Justice Act grant dollars.

**I. Call to the Public**

Chairman Patterson made a call to the public. No call from the public was made.

**J. Announcements**

Ms. Alonzo referenced a handout included in the materials handed out that allows members of the Commission to suggest future agenda topics. She noted that members may send them to her electronically or leave them at the end of the meeting.

Cindi Nannetti announced the recent Physical Crimes Against Children training conducted by the Children's Justice Training Team and funded with Children's Justice Act Grant funds had 143 attendees, the largest in the team's history. She reported representation from all over the State.

**K. Adjourn**

Chairman Patterson adjourned the meeting at 11:25 am.

*The next meeting of the Arizona Juvenile Justice Commission is Thursday,  
July 21, 2011 at 9:30 am*